

Today

ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE FUND - Philoptochos will be collecting donations in the Narthex after church in support of the ongoing work and ministries of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the spiritual center of our Orthodox faith. It helps preserve our sacred traditions, maintain historic holy sites, and support the leadership that guides Orthodox Christians around the world. We invite all to be generous with your contributions in support of the Patriarchate and in outreach and care to the hospital and senior care facilities in Istanbul.

Thursday

TOUCHSTONE: A JOURNAL OF MERE CHRISTIANITY is a Christian Journal based on the fundamental doctrines of the Christian Faith. We are happy to announce that J. Douglas Johnson, the Executive Editor of Touchstone, will speak here at Holy Cross. Touchstone articles are often used in the Studies in the Faith courses and the Touchstone Conference is attended each year by parishioners. The event is open to our parishioners. We have also put the invite out to Bay Area Orthodox jurisdictions and several Christian churches. The event will open at 6 pm in The Oaks, with Mr. Johnson speaking soon after. RSVP to office@goholycross.org



Friday. RSVP for

PROPHET ELIAS 46th ANNIVERSARY GALA, Saturday, November 14. Honoring Robin & Greg Sirakides for their dedication and contributions to Prophet Elias for over 42 years. \$100 per person, limited seating. 223 Church Street, Santa Cruz. RSVP by **November 6** to georgiac59@aol.com or 831-818-7231 / All proceeds from this wonderful event will go toward repairing the interior damage to the church caused by roof leaks. We pray to raise \$20,000 through your generous donations and auction item participation. If you are not able to attend, please consider making a donation to our beautiful church. Thank you!

Next Sunday

OUTREACH SUNDAY – is moved to **NEXT Sunday, November 8** because of today's Cosmas and Damianos Collection for the Patriarchate. Please give generously to both ministries.

Next Sunday

COWBOY COFFEE AND BBQ - following Liturgy. Y'all are invited to join us for our Faith, Family and Fellowship Roundup in The Oaks. Sponsored by our Philoptochos. Tickets are \$25 each, kids under 10, free. Enjoy a BBQ meal, fresh coffee, iced tea and homemade sweet treats. Raffle tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5. For questions or reservations contact Gigi at gglafkides@yahoo.com. Hope to see you there! Yeehaw!!!



Thur Nov 12

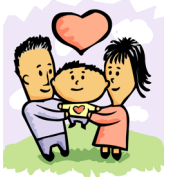
PIECEMEAL 2026 - This year's Piecemeal Thanksgiving Dinner will begin at 6:30 pm in The Oaks. Each year, our families gather for a Thanksgiving dinner. Turkey, stuffing, and dessert are provided, while each of you brings a Piece of the meal - a favorite Thanksgiving family dish. RSVP to religious@goholycross.org



Sun Nov 15

GODPARENTS LUNCH - following Divine Liturgy. Join us as we honor our Godparents for their love and guidance.

Sip & Celebrate! - Spritzes and Mimosas available for purchase. Admission for adults, \$35; dancers and children 6 to 18, \$20; 5 and under – FREE. For seating requests, please email Kathy Flocas by **November 13** at kathyflocas@yahoo.com or 650-862-2610. Flyer and RSVP link at the QR code.



thru Nov 15

KICKS 4 KIDS NEW SHOE DRIVE - Please donate! It's time once again to open our hearts and make a difference in the life of a child through our Kicks 4 Kids Shoe Drive. A new pair of shoes may seem like a small gift, but to a child in need, it can bring comfort, confidence, and a beautiful smile. We invite you to join us in this special ministry by donating a new pair of shoes and helping us put a smile on a child's face. Together, we can make a difference—one pair of shoes at a time. To sign up for a child <https://sites.google.com/view/hcnewkicksforkids/home> To make a monetary donation to Kicks 4 Kids <https://www.goholycross.org/Philoptochos/Donation.aspx>



Sun Nov 22

FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY – All members in good standing are encouraged to attend this important meeting in the life of our parish. Join us following Divine Liturgy in The Oaks. Agenda and previous minutes will be at our church website soon.

Sun Dec 6

ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL Holy Cross Christmas Program, immediately after liturgy in the church (not in the evening this year). Students will perform a 15 minute Nativity Play with singing by the students, choir & congregation. Breakfast with Santa in The Oaks, sponsored by our Dance Groups/Youth Council.



❖ ❖ ❖ **NEWS** ❖ ❖ ❖

COOKIES! For Thanksgiving and Christmas gifting (and nomming!). Call 650-593-2537 if you would like to purchase freshly-baked & beautifully-packaged melomakarona & kourambiedes.

INTERESTED IN MAKING PROSPHORA? We are looking for volunteers to make prosphora regularly for our church as a meaningful way to offer your time, work, and talents to the life of the Church. For years, a few faithful members of our parish have generously offered this service, and we hope to encourage new people to participate and follow in their footsteps. If you are interested in learning how to prepare and make prosphora for divine services, please contact Father Peter at frpeter@goholycross.org or Father Manoli at frmanoli@goholycross.org.



WANTED: SHEPHERDS, WISE MEN, ANGELS & MORE! Sign up your kids today for a role in our amazing Holy Cross Christmas Program on **Sun., Dec. 6, immediately after liturgy in the church** (replacing the evening program). This year's Program will have the Nativity Play only and will run 15 minutes. Santa Claus will visit with kids during Coffee Hour. We hope all students will participate.



Tell us your child's first and last name, age, grade, and whether they want a speaking role (1-3 lines), non-speaking role, or participate only in the singing. Rehearsal for everyone on **Sat., Dec. 5, 11 am-12:30 pm.** Additional rehearsals for speaking roles on **Thur & Fri, Dec. 3-4, 6:45-8pm.** Contact Eva Canellos, cecanellos@aol.com.

ARE YOU A MEMBER of the CHURCH of the HOLY CROSS? IF NOT, MAKE YOUR STEWARDSHIP 2026 COMMITMENT TODAY! – Let's make this the “Year of Stewardship”! We thank you for your support and for joining our Parish Community. If you haven't already donated, please visit our church website and make your monthly donation for our minimal ask of \$175 today!

HOLY CROSS TREES - We began selling Christmas Trees to the local area in 2014. We will continue again this year, with the lot opening the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. We are looking for adults and young people to help manage more of the operations. Email Fr. Peter or konstantines@goholycross.org.

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN We are still enrolling students in our pre-Kindergarten class for the 2026-27 school year. -- please email Director Chris Shreve to schedule a visit for you and your child today! Preschool@goholycross.org Visit our Preschool website: www.holycrossbelmont.com

STUDIES AND BIBLE CLASSES! – Classes continue! Contact konstantines@goholycross.org for schedule.

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

If you are visiting us for the first time, send us an email and share your thoughts and suggestions. May God bless and keep you well.



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
Saints Cosmas and Damianos - November 1, 2026

The Reverend Father Peter G. Salmas - e-mail: frpeter@goholycross.org
The Reverend Father Manoli Aspiotis - e-mail: frmanoli@goholycross.org

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❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ **SERVICES** ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Sunday, November 1 – Saints Cosmas & Damianos – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 7 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, November 8 – Synaxis of the Holy Archangels Michael & Gabriel – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Monday, November 9 – Saint Nektarios – 8:30 AM, Orthros, 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Friday, November 13 – Saint John Chrysostom – 8:30 AM, Orthros, 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 14 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, November 15 – Eighth Sunday of Luke – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Monday, November 16 – Saint Matthew the Evangelist – 8:30 AM, Orthros, 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 21 – Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple – 8:30 AM, Orthros, 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy

Saturday, November 21 – Great Vespers, 5:30 PM

Sunday, November 22 – Ninth Sunday of Luke – 8:45 AM, Orthros, 10:00 AM, Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, November 25 – Saint Katherine / Thanksgiving Eve – 6:00 PM, Orthros, 7:00 PM, Divine Liturgy

OUR HOLY CROSS THREE HIERARCHS BOOKSTORE

For personal use or gift-giving, our shelves are filled with all that is Orthodox for adults and for children. The Tale of the Five Prayers to the Mother of God is described by St. Dimitri of Rostov as .. “Truly great are the promises contained in these short prayers for those who say them every day.” This small prayerbook in booklet form is filled with beautifully written icons throughout. Text by St. Dimitri of Rostov. Recommended by Elder Vitaly the "Earthly Angel, Heavenly Man" as part of one's daily prayer rule, along with the Rule of the Mother of God.

